

Invitation to Guinea Conakry & Isle of Rourme : Our Workshop Journey in the Autumn of 2023

Public announcement and invitation by Djembéfola Mister Alpha Oulare for another
MUSICAL JOURNEY TO GUINEA — please consider to register early, yet in 2022

We hereby invite you again to an Autumn holiday workshop in 2023 — 2-week West-African drum and dance course,^[1] Let yourself be carried away into the wonderful culture of Guinea! Together with us you will discover its breathtaking variety of colors, smells and sounds — very close to the pulse of nature and the local people.

DRUM LESSONS. In drum lessons we practice traditional rhythms and percussion techniques on the Djembé, one of the most expressive drums in Africa. In addition, the interaction of the whole group is trained. The three masters of the drum (Djembéfola) Mr. Gilbert, the course instructor, accompanied by Mr. Alpha Oulare and Mr. Mamadi Camara, go into each level individually. The drums are provided.

DANCING LESSONS. Accompanied by the aforementioned drummers, the dance lessons take place with the two professional dance teachers Ms. Marama Konti and Ms. Kadiatou Zuma. For a long time, both were dancers with the national ballet «Kounkuré Bamba» in Conakry, where they currently live and teach several dance groups. Their wealth of experience enables them to handle different levels of dance equally.

THREE MEALS A DAY. Our cook Ms. Fatime will entertain us with her culinary art. As a snack, fruit, snacks and table ware are freely available for all travelers. You have to organize muesli or special foods yourself.

OVERNIGHT STAY. 2-bed rooms with simple furnishings, beds with mosquito nets are provided. On the Isle of Rourme we stay in bamboo huts directly at the sea.

WHAT AWAITS YOU on our trip to Guinea:

- Airport transfer (arrival and departure as a whole group),
- traditional accommodation (no mass tourism),
- 3x daily culinary delicacies of the Guinean cuisine,
- two-week drum and dance course and
- optional excursions, cultural events, festivals and much more

TRAVEL PRICE for the two-week stay:

- all inclusive with dance and drumming course 950 €,
 - only with dance course 785 €,
 - only with drumming course 785 € (simple extension week possible by arrangement).
- Plus your external costs.

TIME SCHEDULE

Day 1 arrival at Conakry/Guinea airport, transfer as a group^[2] to the town of Coyah^[3].

Day 2 free day to arrive and relax.

Day 3 to Day 7 daily lessons in traditional dance and drumming, in Coyah.

Second Week (Day 8) moving by boat to the Isle of Rourme, one hour before Conakry. Free time for long walks into the interior of the small island and along the sea, visit to the village with insights into the everyday life of the people, for example fishing. Spontaneous excursions around the island or a rest day in a hammock — all this and much more is possible.

From Day 9 on daily lessons in traditional dance and drumming on the Isle of Rourme, outside by the sea.

Day 13 and 14 return journey.

REMARKS

^[1] Variable arrival and departure times are possible.

^[2] Arrangements among the travelers as a group regarding the transfer are possible.

^[3] The drive from Conakry's Airport to Coyah takes approximately 1½ hours. The journey from Coyah to Rourme Island takes approximately 2 hours by car to the port and then another 1 hour by boat to the island.

Dance lessons Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., drum lessons Monday to Friday from noon to 3 p.m.

You have to organize the flight yourself. There are various airlines that fly to Conakry: [Airfrance](#) (you can take a lot of luggage here) or, for example, [Air Morocco](#).

A visa must be ordered at the Guinean Embassy (for German travelers in Berlin).

Vaccination card is mandatory (vaccination against yellow fever and/or prophylactic treatment against malaria).

For those who have the desire and the time, there is an opportunity to arrive earlier and also to stay there longer. The holiday can be extended up to 3 months, for this it is necessary to contact the organizer Mr. Alpha Oulare (additional costs about 150 € per week for room and board).

MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Please contact Mr. Alpha Oulare, Leipzig/Conakry, by e-mail: aoulare@gmail.com, or mobile phone / WhatsApp (+49) (0)178 56 34 016, or via social media Facebook: fb.com/alfa.oulare, also for contracts with the percussion and vocal ensembles Sugué and Rootsmanding, Djembé and dance lessons and workshops for adult and young persons at Leipzig. [© Mister Alpha Oulare, Leipzig / Federal Republic of Germany, and Guinea-Conakry. Leipzig, November 8th, 2022]

HELPFUL:

Further external Internet resources include:

- Guinea News review, for instance the All-Africa service
- Guinea Conakry by Twitter search
- Google Inc. Internet search on Guinea Conakry Rourme
- Travel and Security advises on Guinea from the Federal-
- German Foreign Office, Auswärtiges Amt!
- (English translation) (US advise: Dept. Of State)
- Find by Google Inc. search readings on Guinea Conakry, – Photographs – and Videos.

